

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05821 100928Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00

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R 091922Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 913

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA, GE

SUBJECT: DAVID ROCKEFELLER VISIT

REF: (A) PRAGUE 1333;

1. SUMMARY. DAVID ROCKEFELLER WAS GIVE THE RED CARPET TREATMENT BY HIS EAST GERMAN HOSTS DURING HIS BRIEF TO EAST BERLIN. ACCORDING TO ROCKEFELLER'S OWN ACCOUNT AND MODEST GDR MEDIA COVERAGE, HE WAS EXPOSED TO WELL-KNOWN EAST GERMAN POSITIONS ON A NUMBER OF POLITICO-ECONOMIC ISSUES. ROCKEFELLER ALSO HEAD A COMPLAINT REGARDING THE TREATMENT RECEIVED BY AMBASSADOR SIEBER IN WASHINGTON. END SUMMARY.

2. FROM JUNE 5-7 CHASE MANHATTAN BANK CHAIRMAN DAVID ROCKEFELLER WAS ACCORDED POLITE AND CORDIAL TREATMENT IN EAST BERLIN BY HIS GDR HOSTS. AT MEALS OFFERED BY HORST KAMINSKY, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE BANK (DINNER  
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 05821 100928Z

ON JUNE 5) AND HORST SINDRMANN, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CHAIRMAN (LUNCH ON JUNE #), ROCKEFELLER MET WITH OTHER HIGH GDR OFFICIALS, INCLUDING MINISTERS FISCHER (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) AND SOELLE (FOREIGN TRADE). INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS WITH COUNCIL OF STATE CHAIRMAN WILLI STOPH, SINDERMAN, FISCHER AND KAMINSKY AND HELMUT DIETRICH (PRESIDENT OF THE DEUTSCHE ASSENHANDELSBANK) AND A VISIT TO THE PERGAMON MUSEUM ROUNDED OUT HIS PROGRAM. ON THE EVE OF ROCKEFELLER'S DEPARTURE, AMBASSADOR AND MRS. COOPER GAVE A SMALL DINNER IN HIS HONOR WITH OTHER GUESTS LIMITED TO EMBASSY STAFF.

3. ROCKEFELLER AND HIS PARTY (CHASE VICE PRESIDENTS MICHAEL CURRAN, NEW YORK, AND OSWALD JUDAR, VIENNA) WERE EFFUSIVE IN PRAISING THE HOSPITALITY AND THOUGHTFULNESS OF THEIR HOSTS. THE CLEARLY-CONVEYED IMPRESSION WAS THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN INDEFINABLE QUALITATIVE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEIR EAST BERLIN SOJOURN AND THEIR VISITS TO MOSCOW AND THE OTHER EE CAPITALS. (INDEED, THE EAST GERMANS "ON AN EXCEPTIONAL BASIS" PERMITTED THE THREE-MAN CREW OF THE ROCKEFELLER AIRCRAFT TO EXIT AND ENTER EAST BERLIN VIA CHECKPOINT CHARLIE WITHOUT STAMPING THEIR FULL FEE PASSPORTS, SINCE THE VISAS WERE VALID FOR ONLY ONE ENTRY TO/EXIT FROM THE GDR. MOREOVER, EACH OF THE THREE MEN RECEIVED MARKS 100 FROM THE PROTOCOL OFFICE OF THE STATE BANK FOR "SPENDING MONEY", A GESTURE UNKNOWN TO THEM FROM OTHER STOPS ALONG THE WAY.)

4. ROCKEFELLER AND HIS COLLEAGUES DID NOT HAVE MUCH OF SUBSTANCE TO RECOUNT REGARDING THEIR MEETINGS WITH THE EAST GERMANS. ON THE SUBJECT OF "JOINT VENTURES" (PRESUMABLY MIXED GDR-WESTERN EQUITY COMPANIES ON GDR SOIL), ROCKEFELLER'S INTERLOCUTORS REPORTEDLY STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT THIS FORM OF BUSINESS UNDERTAKING WAS OF NO INTEREST TO THEM. EVEN ROCKEFELLER'S OBSERVATION THAT THE SOVIETS HAD BEEN SIMILARLY NEGATIVE JUST TWO YEARS AGO, BUT WERE NOW MORE FLEXIBLE, FAILED TO ELICIT AN INDICATION THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME GIVE IN THE GDR POSITION.

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PAGE 03 BERLIN 05821 100928Z

5. ACCORDING TO ROCKEFELLER, THE EAST GERMANS AT NO POINT EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CHASE MANHATTAN'S FINANCING GDR TRADE OR OTHERWISE ENGAGING IN FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES ON ITS BEHALF. THE MATTER OF A CHASE REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN EAST BERLIN WAS ALSO NOT RAISED BY THE EAST GERMANS AND ROCKEFELLER HAD NO WISH TO DO SO SINCE CHASE QUESTIONS THE VIABILITY OF SUCH AN

OPERATION HERE.

6. ROCKEFELLER REFUSED TO BE DRAWN OUT ON HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH CZECH OFFICIALS (PARA 4, PRAGUE 1333).

7. I ATTENDED AN ELABORATE LUNCH GIVEN JUNE 6 BY SINDERMANN, ATTENDED BY FISCHER, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GRUNERT, FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR GEYER, KAMINSKY AND DIETRICH. CONVERSATION AT THE LUNCH WAS CHIEFLY BETWEEN SINDERMANN AND ROCKEFELLER WITH NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS ON THEIR PRIVATE MEETING. SINDERMANN REFERRED IN RATHER DEROGATORY MANNER TO MODERN ART, BUT WHEN ROCKEFELLER SPOKE OF HIS INTEREST IN THIS ART AND OF HIS POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART IN NEW YORK, SINDERMANN SAID THERE WERE YOUNG AND GOOD PAINTERS OF CONTEMPORARY CHARACTERISTICS OF GDR LIFE. LATER HE REFERRED SCORNFULLY TO GOLO MANN, SAYING MANN HAD WRITTEN ABOUT HIS SUPPOSED REASONS FOR NOT LIVING IN THE GDR. SINDERMANN TOOK THE OCCASION TO TOAST ME AND ASK HOW GDR-US RELATIONS WERE PROGRESSING TO WHICH I REPLIED, AS USUAL, THAT THE US WAS TRYING TO ACHIEVE GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS. IT WAS INTERESTING TO HEAR SINDERMANN, THROUGHOUT LUNCH AND LATER WHEN I SAT WITH HIM AND ROCKEFELLER, PORTRAYING HIMSELF AS A LOVER OF PAINTING, MUSIC, A SYSTEMATIC READER EVERY EVENING, AND FINALLY AS A HUNTER OF WILD BOAR, WHICH HE INTENDED TO HUNT THAT EVENING. FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT I HAVE HEARD, HE WAS ADDRESSED BY GDR OFFICIALS AS "MR. PRIME MINISTER" RATHER THAN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. HE CONTINUALLY TEASED OFFICIALS FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESENT, WITH A GOOD DEAL OF WIT, BUT WITH NO RESPONSE EXCEPT FROM GRUNERT. ROCKEFELLER KEPT UP WITH SINDERMANN ALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 BERLIN 05821 100928Z

THE WAY WITH GOOD HUMOR AND WIT.

8. AT HIS ONE-HOUR MEETING WITH FISCHER, ROCKEFELLER WAS TOLD BY THE GDR FOREIGN MINISTER THAT AMBASSADOR COOPER AND HIS STAFF HAD, FROM THE BEGINNING, ENJOYED ACCESS TO GDR GOVERNMENT AND PARTY OFFICIALS. SAYING THAT HE WOULD ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE TO AMBASSADOR COOPER TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN, FISCHER, RR BY IMPLICATION, CONTRASTED AMBASSADOR COOPER'S POSITION TO THAT OF AMBASSADOR SIEBER WHO, FISCHER PLAINTIVELY NOTED, HAD HAD TO WAIT FOUR MONTHS TO SEE SECRETARY KISSINGER.

9. ROCKEFELLER DID NOT DISCUSS WITH ME FRIDAY EVENING HIS COVERSATION WITH SINDERMANN, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT

SINDERMANN HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TRADE. ROCKEFELLER  
TOLD ME THAT HIS PURPOSE IN VISITING ALL EE COUNTRIES  
WAS HIS INTEREST IN EAST-WEST TRADE.

10. THE GDR MEDIA GAVE THE VISIT RATHER PERFUNCTORY  
COVERAGE (SEPTTEL); ROCKEFELLER WAS REPEATEDLY INCO-  
RECTLY IDENTIFY AS PRESIDENT OF CHASE MANHATTAN. COOPER

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